



Reaching Everybody! Newsleaders

Friday, Nov. 29, 2019
Volume 24, Issue 23
Est. 1995

Town Crier

Winterwalk is Dec. 6 in downtown St. Joseph

Winterwalk activities will be Friday, Dec. 6, at Church of St. Joseph, 12 W. Minnesota St. Come for supper, shop at the craft/vendor sales and bake sale all from 4-8 p.m. Stay for the 40-foot tree lighting at 6 p.m. outside on the church grounds. Visit and take a photo with Santa and Mrs. Claus from 5-7:30 p.m. The Heritage Hall will also have refreshments, craft-making for the children, as well as a variety of music. Shop downtown for business specials, refreshments and a chance to win prizes. Winterwalk is sponsored by the St. Joseph Y2K Lions, Church of St. Joseph and local sponsors.

Winter market Saturday, Dec. 7

Sartell Farmers Market is open from 4-7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, inside Sartell Community Center, 850 19th St S. Come enjoy the lights and stop at the market for great items. We are also open from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 21. Find great food and gifts for the upcoming holiday season.

Annual Christmas sale at Immaculate Conception

The annual Christmas cookie, candy and gift sale will be from 9:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, at Immaculate Conception Church, 145 Second Ave. NE. in Rice. They provide the container, and you fill it with an assortment of cookies and candies for purchase. Handmade and specialty gifts are also for sale by local vendors. Contact the parish office at 320-393-2725 for more information.

'Christmas Country' concert to benefit 3-month-old girl

"Wrapped Up in Lights," a free-will country Christmas concert for all ages featuring Ashlee, Radio Nation and the Farmer's Daughters, will be at 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8, in Love of Christ Lutheran Church, 1971 Pinecone Road S., St. Cloud. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Lilly Olson family with their medical bills and Christmas. Lilly is the 3-month-old daughter of Lindsey Olson, a member of the Farmer's Daughters band, who recently underwent her third open-heart surgery.

Winter Wonderland set Saturday, Dec. 14

Santa and Mrs. Claus have taken time off from their busy schedule to join you and your family for a winter celebration from 1-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14, at the Lake George Municipal Complex.

Criers • back page

Partnership leads to new ski trail

by Mike Knaak
editor@thenewsleaders.com

High school and community skiers now have a new cross country trail in Sartell thanks to a joint effort by the school district, Nordic Ski Club of Central Minnesota and the city of Sartell.

The trail officially opened Nov. 18 after volunteers spent the summer clearing brush and the fall making snow on the 1/2K trail between the old Sartell high school and soccer fields.

The 60 members of the Sartell/Cathedral nordic ski team will use the trail for practices, coach Joe Teff said. Skiers from Tech and Apollo high schools are also expected to use it, as well as community members.

A \$24,000 donation from the

Ski • page 8



photo by Mike Knaak

High school skiers try out the trail after the ribbon cutting Nov. 18.

Student-teacher 'soaking it in' at Pine Meadow

by Mike Knaak
editor@thenewsleaders.com

It's 9 a.m. Reading time is over and now it's time for prefixes. The second-graders dig in, led by Katie Strand.

She quizzes the engaged children about re-, pre- and un- as casually as if they were chatting about their favorite movie character or snack food.

Strand is student-teaching this year with Justin Foss at Pine Meadow Elementary School and the grammar lesson is just part of her day with 22 7- and 8-year-olds.

Strand, 28, plans to graduate

next spring with a degree in elementary education from St. Cloud State University. After earning her license and certification, she wants to be an elementary school teacher.

But that's months off. Now, she says, "I just soak it in and enjoy being a student-teacher. I'm learning and getting to know the children I'm with right now."

She has plenty of support she says, starting with Foss, her "cooperating teacher."

"He told me I can do this and just do it," Strand said of Foss. "He helps me to formulate lessons and to

Teacher • page 2



photo by Mike Knaak

Student-teacher Katie Strand offers positive feedback to a second-grader during a lesson on prefixes at Pine Meadow Elementary School.

Choice awards honors businesses, individuals

by Dennis Dalman
news@thenewsleaders.com

Two businesses and two individuals were honored with "Choice" awards at the annual Sartell Chamber of Commerce awards night Nov. 14 at Blackberry Ridge Golf Course.

The honorees were the St. Cloud-based Central Minnesota Mental Health Center, large business; House of Pizza in Sartell, small business; Jed Meyer, Sartell Citizen of the Year; and Jessica Houle, Sartell Chamber of Commerce Member of the Year.

Mental Health Center

Accepting the Large Business Award for Central Minnesota Mental Health Center was its executive director, Dr. Richard Lee.

"We were thrilled," said Lee of the award. "Just this year we are recognizing our 60th year. I often say we are greater St. Cloud's best-kept secret. And for Sartell to call us out (for recognition) makes us so proud."

Founded in 1959, the CMMHC now has numerous

Honored • page 3



contributed photo

"Choice" winners are (left to right) Jessica Houle, Chamber Member of the Year; Dr. Richard Lee, who accepted on behalf of Large Business of the Year Central Minnesota Health Center; Citizen of the Year Jed A. Meyer; and Brandon Testa, owner of Small Business of the Year House of Pizza.

INSERT: Lily's Wings, Burger & Things

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if you would like to be in the business directory.



photo by Adam Hammer, St. Cloud State University

St. Cloud State President Robbyn Wacker (left) talks with Katie Strand (right) during a session with Gov. Tim Walz (center) during the governor's visit with education students on Nov. 18.

Teacher

from front page

work with kids. He's a great
role model. Seeing him teach
makes me want to be a better
teacher."

At first, she said, she was
nervous, but with his support,
she's gained more confidence.

She's found support outside
of the classroom too, where
she comes from a family of ed-
ucators. Parents Anne and Tim
Bang, of Sartell, are also teach-
ers. Anne teaches at Sartell
High School and Tim teaches
in Foley.

"They tell me 'it's about the
kids,'" Strand says. They also
offer feedback on lesson plans.

Strand's older sister is
studying for a doctorate in
mathematics at Iowa State Uni-
versity so she can teach too.

Strand's husband, Daryn,
works at the St. Cloud VA
Health Care System, and the
couple's home in Sartell in-
cludes daughters ages 3 and 5
months.

Strand will be with her
classroom family at Pine
Meadow through the school

year, with brief interruptions
for class back on the St. Cloud
State campus.

"The things I'm learning in
the classroom I can't learn at
SCSU," Strand said. "The best
way is to be in front of those
kids."

Strand returned to campus
Nov. 18 and joined other ed-
ucation students in a meeting
with Gov. Tim Walz. The gov-
ernor talked about his teaching
background, current education
issues such as funding, teacher
retention and growing mental
health needs.

After Strand graduated from
Sartell High School in 2009,
she earned a bachelor's degree
in communication psychology
from St. Cloud State. From
occasional work with children,
she decided she wanted to
work with children all the time
as a teacher, so she returned
to college.

Before starting her stu-
dent-teaching this fall, she
completed shorter field expe-
riences with kindergartners at
Pine Meadow and fourth-graders
at Westwood Elementary
School in St. Cloud.

Language arts, math and
science are all part of the day's

mission for Strand and her sec-
ond-graders. Each topic covers
an hour to 90 minutes. To keep
the young minds engaged,
Strand leads stretch breaks and
moves from topic to topic.

"Math scared me a good
chunk of my life," she said.
Now "I love learning math
with the kids." Math for sec-
ond-graders includes coin val-
ue, two-digit addition and ad-
dition facts.

Strand observed parent con-
ferences with Foss and learned
from the experience. "He let
the students do the talking,"
she said. "He'd ask the stu-
dents how they felt they were
doing."

When talking about her
student-teaching experience,
Strand frequently mentions the
culture and environment at
Pine Meadow.

Other teachers welcome her
to staff meetings and join her
for lunch. "I come and lis-
ten," she said. "That's huge.
It's great spending time with
them."

"I can see kids respect each
other and the teachers respect
the kids," she said.

Sartell-St. Stephen • St. Joseph

Newsleaders

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Honored

from front page

locations: three in St. Cloud and one each in Buffalo, Elk River, Monticello and Waite Park. Its main location in St. Cloud is at 1321 13th St. N.

The center's services are available for people in a four-county area (Benton, Stearns, Sherburne, Wright). Among those services are a mobile crisis-response team for children and/or adults in need of immediate mental-health services; a St. Cloud five-bed residential adult-crisis stabilization unit, which is a short-term and safe place for individuals to stay while working through a mental-health crisis; a suicide-prevention education program; and a St. Cloud-area response-initiative program, which is a coordinated community response for children (birth to age 18) and families that have experienced trauma or violence.

Also available is a 24-hour Mental Health Crisis Hotline (320-253-555 or 800-635-8008) and a 24-Hour Detoxification Service (320-252-6654).

The center's staff works diligently to ensure its programs are collaborative in nature, networking with entities in the area, such as law enforcement, to consider all factors in treating those suffering from mental-health issues.

Lee came on board as executive director in February 2016. Raised in the Twin Cities, Lee earned a degree in psychology at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls and then went onto receive master's and doctoral degrees in clinical psychology at Bowling Green State University (Ohio). Throughout his career, he has provided clinical services in a variety of settings. Lee accepted the Choice award on behalf of the center and its staff at the Sartell Chamber banquet.

The center's leadership team is comprised of Lee, Beth Rhoads, director of health inte-

gration; Brieene Frantesl, director of human services; Danielle Brant, director of chemical services; Jennifer Rochelau-Dorholt, director of crisis services; Joy Shamla, director of compliance; Keven Kiloran, director of finance; Tracy Hinz, director of rehabilitative services; Robin Matushin, director of operations; and Steven Loos, director of outpatient services.

House of Pizza

A "great staff" is what has made House of Pizza a successful business for so many years, said its owner Brandon Testa, who accepted the award at the Chamber banquet.

In a later interview, Testa again emphasized his great staff and excellent support from the community and from others in Sartell who own restaurants and who are mutually supportive rather than merely competitive.

"It felt good to get that award," he said, "but it was an honor among such a good class of other businesses."

Testa's father, Bob, opened House of Pizza on Fifth Avenue in downtown St. Cloud in 1964. Later, Brandon bought the business from his father and opened the Sartell location in 2001. Up to 120 staff, mostly part-time people, work for House of Pizza, including many high-school and college students, Testa noted.

The multiple-award-winning House of Pizza relies on time-tested older recipes, but it also features new menu

Honored • back page

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Patricia "Pat" Diane Langer, 67
St. Cloud
Feb. 12, 1952-Nov. 23, 2019

Patricia "Pat" Diane Langer, 67, died peacefully on Saturday, Nov. 23 at her home surrounded by her family after a courageous battle with cancer. Her funeral will be



Langer

Obituary

held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 30, in St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, 219 Second St. N., Sartell. The Rev. Timothy Baltes will officiate and burial will be at the parish cemetery. Visitation will be two hours prior to the service on Saturday at the church.

Survivors include the following: her husband of 42 years, Jerry of St. Cloud; children, Sara (Joe) Storkamp of St. Cloud and Jeff Langer (Jen Zimmerman) of Park Rapids; mother, Dona Miller of Sauk Rapids; siblings, Chuck (Jane) Miller of St. Cloud, Kathy

(Mike) Wolf of Richmond, Mike (Bridget) Miller of Sauk Rapids, Kelly (Jay) Bares of Buffalo, and Lynda (Daryl) Senger of St. Cloud; granddaughter, Tessa Langer, and one grandchild on the way; step-grandchildren, Damion, Bella and Makayla Zimmerman; and many nieces and nephews.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Williams Dingmann Family Funeral Home, Sauk Rapids.

The full obituary will be printed in the Nov. 29 Sartell-St. Stephen Newsleader.



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District Revenues and Expenditures

Budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 and FY 2020

ED-00110-42

General Information: Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.10, requires that every school board shall publish the subject data of this report.

District Name: Sartell-St. Stephen School District

District Number: 0748

Fund	FY 2019 Beginning Fund Balances	FY 2019 Actual Revenues and Transfers In	FY 2019 Actual Expenditures and Transfers Out	June 30, 2019 Actual Fund Balances	FY 2020 Budget Revenues and Transfers In	FY 2020 Budget Expenditures and Transfers Out	June 30, 2020 Projected Fund Balances
General Fund/Restricted	\$ 2,295,439	\$ 2,918,050	\$ 1,735,440	\$ 3,478,049	\$ 2,632,396	\$ 2,667,509	\$ 3,442,936
General Fund/Other	\$ 7,313,383	\$ 38,909,578	\$ 39,076,090	\$ 7,146,671	\$ 40,020,312	\$ 40,503,548	\$ 6,663,435
Food Service Fund	\$ 457,516	\$ 2,387,393	\$ 2,347,219	\$ 497,690	\$ 2,389,750	\$ 2,387,118	\$ 500,322
Community Service Fund	\$ 519,681	\$ 1,099,688	\$ 987,406	\$ 631,963	\$ 1,268,400	\$ 1,289,474	\$ 610,889
Building Construction Fund	\$ 64,458,652	\$ 1,388,035	\$ 40,802,688	\$ 25,043,999	\$ 250,000	\$ 26,545,618	\$ (1,251,619)
Debt Service Fund	\$ 1,547,910	\$ 8,917,920	\$ 8,791,171	\$ 1,694,459	\$ 7,511,277	\$ 7,545,980	\$ 1,659,756
Trust Fund	\$ 14,408	\$ 18,755	\$ 17,200	\$ 15,963	\$ -	\$ 15,963	\$ -
Internal Service Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
* OPEB Revocable Trust Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
OPEB Irrevocable Trust Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
OPEB Debt Service Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total - All Funds	\$ 76,606,789	\$ 55,659,419	\$ 93,757,414	\$ 38,508,794	\$ 54,072,135	\$ 60,955,210	\$ 11,625,719
Long-Term Debt			Current Statutory Operating Debt per Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.81				
Outstanding July 1, 2018	\$ 121,798,832	Amount of General Fund Deficit, if any, in excess of 2.5% of expenditures 06/30/2019				\$ -	
Plus: New Issues	\$ -						
Less: Redeemed Issues	\$ 5,752,234	Cost per student - Average Daily Membership (ADM) 06/30/2019					
Outstanding June 30, 2019	\$ 116,046,598						
Short-Term Debt			Total Operating Expenditures				\$ 42,410,715.00
Certificates of Indebtedness	\$ -	FY 2019 Total ADM Served + Tuitioned Out ADM + Adjusted Extended ADM				4,019.05	
Other Short-Term Indebtedness	\$ -	FY 2019 Operating Cost per ADM				\$ 10,552.42	

The complete budget may be inspected upon request to the superintendent.

Comments:

A revision to the FY 2020 budget is expected to be approved by the board of education in the Spring of 2020.



photo by Dennis Dalman

Christmas sale supports Sartell Historical Society

Cecilia and Cameron Kohout, ages 6 and 9, of Sartell check out Christmas knick-knacks at the "Holiday Market" Nov. 23 at the Sartell Community Center. A fundraiser for the Sartell Historical Society, the event featured free cookies, cider and many vendors offering hand-crafted holiday-themed gifts. Cecilia and Cameron are the children of Samantha and Brian Kohout of Sartell.

People



contributed photo

Sartell High School team members Nick Goff and Rece Haupt.

The St. Cloud Area Thunder Adapted Soccer Team participated in the 2019 Minnesota State High School League Adapted Soccer State Tournament hosted at Stillwater Area High School Nov. 22-23. Team members come from St. Cloud, Sauk Rapids-Rice and Sartell school districts. The team played Burnsville/Farmington/Lakeville, White Bear Lake, and Dakota United (Eastview/Apple Valley/Eagan/Rosemount). The team lost in the consolation finals to Dakota United. Sartell High School team members are **Nick Goff** and **Rece Haupt**. Goff was selected to the All-Tournament Team.

Nicole Kern of Sartell has been appointed by Gov. Tim Walz to the Children's Cabinet Advisory Council and the State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care. The Children's Cabinet Advisory Council and the State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care

will make recommendations to support community engagement and work of carrying out Executive Order 19-34 across state government.

St. Cloud State University junior **Christopher Leach** of Sartell was awarded the Mathematics & Statistics and Computer Science & Information Technology Scholarship Award for the 2019-2020 academic year.

Leach was eligible for the award as a student majoring in software engineering and having a grade-point average of 3.0 or higher overall and 3.50 in major courses.

The Minnesota Public Transit Association honored Fixed Route Operator **Pete Mugg** of Sartell with the Minnesota Bus Operator of the Year award at its annual conference last month.

Mugg has worked for Metro Bus since 1977. The award is presented to an individual who has consistently demonstrated high levels of achievement in

all aspects of their performance including attendance, safety, customer service, leadership and commitment to the organization.

Delaney Dinger



Dinger

a sophomore at Sartell High School, will attend a summer honors program, Future Docs Abroad, in Hue, Vietnam from July 10-26, 2020. Future-Docs Abroad is an honors-only program that allows high school students to access what only third- and fourth-year medical students can in the United States. During the two-week program, Delaney will spend time observing surgeries taking place in the operating room, with the surgeon explaining the procedure as it's being performed.

Sartell couple opens music shop in St. Joseph

by Dennis Dalman
news@thenewsleaders.com

A music shop known as Barrett's Music had its grand opening Nov. 9 in the building that housed for seven years a previous music shop, Riff City Guitar, at 708 Elm St. E. in St. Joseph.

Barrett's Music is owned by Sartell residents Micah and Jeanine Barrett. Long-time music enthusiasts, music teachers and musical performers, the Barretts are part of the greater St. Cloud area music network, and both of them know Joe Leach, owner of Riff City Guitar. When Leach told the Barretts he intended to pursue another career direction, they eventually came to the conclusion they could set up shop in the very place at 708 Elm St. Leach was happy another music shop would be opening on that site. And Leach helped the Barretts get their new business up and running.

The Barretts will carry guitars, drums, keyboards – the works. But they will also sell sheet music, and their emphasis will be focused on a family-friendly place that caters not just to professional players but to virtual newcomers who, feeling a bit hesitant, can pop into the shop without feeling intimidated by the presence of “pros” who may be there too. The Barretts have an agreement in place with an existing music

school for a lessons program that will allow total musical-instrument beginners to learn to play, lesson by lesson, with burgeoning confidence. With that goal in mind, there are four lesson rooms at the shop.

Barrett's Music will also offer a service department.

The shop's general manager is Al Stumpf, who also managed Riff City Guitar.

“Our objective is to serve not only local pros and teachers, but to give significant attention to beginners and their families and create a comfortable and affordable experience for them,” Stumpf said “We are strictly locally focused. No e-commerce.”

A financial advisor for a firm in St. Cloud, Micah Barrett's musical roots run very deep. His late grandfather, Roger Barrett, was a bedrock musical legend in the St. Cloud area – as performer, teacher and chair of the music department at St. Cloud State University. Micah's father, Gary (son of Roger) has been a local piano technician for more than 30 years.

Micah earned a degree in jazz performance (bass and oboe primarily), as well as one in piano technology, at SCSU. He is a former member and officer for the St. Cloud Symphony Orchestra and worked at Al's Music in St. Cloud for six years, with shorter stints at Schmitt Music and Music-Goround. He currently plays bass

guitar and sings with Justin Ploof and the Throwbacks as well as Mason Dixon Line.

Jeanine Barrett earned a degree in piano performance from Concordia College, Moorhead, and has been teaching piano for 18 years. She currently owns a teaching studio. Jeanine is a former president of the Great River Music Club and created and operates a local online teacher directory – Unite4Music.com. She frequently performs with the St. Cloud Symphony and various local chamber-music groups.

High-school sweethearts, Micah and Jeanine graduated from St. Cloud Tech in 2002 and have been married for 13 years. They have two children – Roger, 7; and Nora, 4, who both attend Sartell schools.

Micah said his mission statement is this:

“We are a family owned full-service music store, literally putting the mom and pop back into the ‘mom and pop.’ We believe music, and more specifically learning to play music, should be as affordable and accessible as possible. We live in an age in which people are becoming more and more accustomed to getting things in a near-instant and learning to play an instrument proficiently is, well, slow and difficult, making it one of life's remaining great challenges.”

Barrett's Music is open from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Friday;



contributed photo

Micah and Jeanine Barrett of Sartell recently opened “Barrett's Music” in St. Joseph, in the building formerly occupied by “Riff City Guitar.” The Barretts have a longtime, extensive passion and talent for music and musical performing.

and from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday. It is closed on Sunday. Music, visit its website at www.barrettsmusic.com.

To learn more about Barrett's

Sartell man's book describes early Manitoba farm life

by Dennis Dalman
news@thenewsleaders.com

Growing up on a farm deep in the boondocks, Gary Schnellert absorbed the necessity of hard work at a very early age and to this day much of what he knows he learned long ago in the “school of hard knocks.”

In a just-published book titled “Small Farm in the Swamp,” the 68-year-old Sartell resident recounts the joys and struggles of family life in southeastern Manitoba, where he was born and raised. The memoir is comprised of 60 short chapters, each with its own theme and topic, all of them related to Schnellert's hardscrabble youth. The chapters range from the achingly nostalgic to the joys of everyday discoveries, from fears and terrors to fun and mischief, from the wildly comical to the long shadows cast by death.

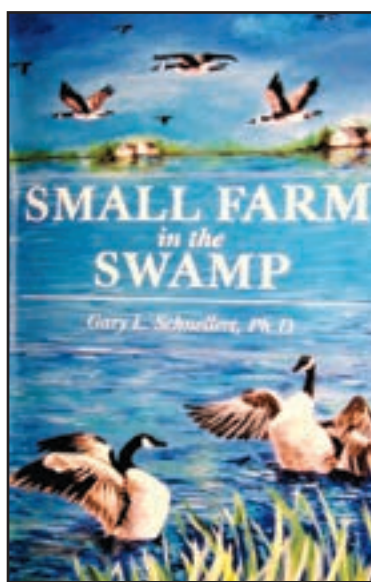
The book, filled with lively illustrations and black-and-white photos toward the back, is an engaging read written in a bright conversational style,

a perfect book to read aloud to others while sitting around a campfire or during a snowstorm that strands everyone indoors.

Schnellert, a retired educator and school administrator, who earned many degrees, including a doctorate, has lived in Sartell with his wife, Betty, since 1999. They have one daughter, Darla and a granddaughter Kendra Fults, to whom Schnellert's book is dedicated.

Schnellert has also served internationally in various educational programs via government grants at universities in the West Indies, South America, Africa, Bulgaria, Croatia and in the former Soviet regions of Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine. Schnellert's paternal grandfather, William, immigrated to the United States from Ukraine in 1913. Schnellert's book's illustrator, Olga Carpenko, he met while working at a university in Moldova.

Schnellert is an elder at Messiah Lutheran Church in



contributed photo

Gary L. Schnellert of Sartell just published his memoir of growing up on a farm in the wilds of southeast Manitoba in the 1950s and 1960s. The book, comprised of 60 short chapters, runs the gamut of emotions and experiences – tight-knit family, hard work, comical incidents, boyhood adventures, the value of neighbors and friends, disappointments, sorrows and the “sting of death.”

Book • page 6



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HISTORIC SALEM CHURCH Christmas Program Saturday, Dec. 14

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Horse drawn wagon rides from 3 to 4:15 p.m.
Old-fashioned Christmas Program—4:30 p.m.
We welcome your gifts of non-perishable food items and toys to be delivered to the Paynesville Community Center.

A free-will offering will be taken for the Salem Church and Cemetery restoration and upkeep. Refreshments served.

Historic Salem Community Church, 5 miles north of Paynesville on 220th Street.
Call 320-249-0373 or 320-493-1657 for more information.

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Book

from page 5

Sartell.

"Small Farm in the Swamp" takes place mainly during the 1950s and 1960s in or near the small Manitoban towns of Overwater, Glenmoor, Beausejour and Lac du Bonnet – a wilderness-and-swamp area northeast of Winnipeg and due north of the northwest area of Minnesota. Manitoba is one of Canada's 10 provinces, between the provinces of Saskatchewan and Ontario.

Farm life in rural Manitoba was a constant struggle years ago, and tillable land had to be reclaimed from land covered by tamarack swamps, peat bogs, nearly total lack of roads and other obstacles, including harsh and unforgiving winters.

Winter, in fact, is practically one of the "characters" in "Small Farm in the Swamp." Some of the narratives in the book will leave readers shivering and grabbing for a sweater, such as the second chapter titled "Labor and Labor." Schnellert describes in vivid and harrowing detail the herculean physical exertions of his father and others trying to get Mrs. Schnellert, pregnant and going into labor, to a hospital in snowbound weather dipping to 28 below zero. It was an astounding feat that involved a 1952 Chevrolet pickup, two farm work horses (Rusty and Corky), a stone boat (sled for hauling rocks) and ferocious human exertions. The horses were used to tramp down high snowdrifts so the pickup could go through them, and at one point the horses even had to pull the pickup to help it maneuver its way along. The nearest paved road was seven miles away and calling for help was impossible as phones had not yet been introduced to that remote area in the 1950s.

"Pop" Schnellert had to light a fire under the truck's oil pan to get the motor started. Mrs. Schnellert, her two young children (Gary and Lindy) were placed among hay bales on the stone boat. The horses were hitched up to the stone boat, and Mr. Schnellert took the reins, guiding the family to the waiting pickup on the far edge of the farmland. There, the hay bales were tossed into the pickup as the family piled in. However, one problem led to another and another. The pickup finally started, but snowdrifts slowed the progress to a snail's pace. And then, to everyone's horror, the truck got stuck. "Pop" came to the rescue by having the horses hitched up to the back of the truck, pulling it back and out of the snow as Mrs. Schnellert did the steering. Finally, at long last, the exhausted travelers arrived at Uncle Eddy's place, and he



contributed photo

In a photo dated August 1973 is Gary Schnellert (right) with his parents Roy and Nathalie Schnellert and Gary's sister in the photo is Lindy.

helped too as they made their way to Mrs. Schnellert's parents' home. From there, she was driven to the hospital in Beausejour and gave birth to a baby named Myrna. Despite the worries, the mental and physical exhaustions, the rest was a brief one for "Pop," who had to return to the farm that evening to milk the cows.

Schnellert has a knack for finding humor even in crises, an unmistakable talent for "survival" humor, along with strong faith, that buoys up people trapped in awful circumstances.

He ends the "Labor and Labor" chapter this way:

"In the following years, there was occasionally some discussion between Mom and Pop regarding who labored the hardest to bring Myrna into the world, and strangely enough, there were no more winter pregnancies – or summer pregnancies either. Their family was complete."

In "The Sting of Death" chapter, Schnellert shares the grief-stricken memory of the death of his aunt, Adina Pachal, who was Pop's youngest sister. Adina, the mother of five children, got the girls off to school one winter morning, then went out back to check the outdoor temperature. She suddenly fell down, blood seeping from her ears and nose onto the ice. She had died of a sudden aneurysm. Her little son, Lionel, later said he kept going outside because "Mama was sleeping and she wouldn't get up."

Waves of sorrow ricocheted through the community, as it does in rural areas where people depend upon other people and everyone knows everyone.

Schnellert ends the chapter this way:

"There was an awkwardness at school as all the children struggled to confront and deal with an event for which life had not prepared them.

Their world had shifted. They wanted to offer comfort to the Pachals, their friends, cousins and classmates but felt inadequate to the task and were unsure of how to react. It was a life lesson for all and one that formal schooling could not adequately address."

Many of Schnellert's chapters are laugh-out-loud funny, such as the one about Gary getting his tongue stuck on frosty barbed wire, a painful ordeal that ended only when skin was yanked from lips and tongue.

Schnellert writes this: "Frosty tasting quickly loses its charm when a boy is too tongue-tied to enjoy it."

Busy life

Betty (Blonding), Schnellert's wife whom he married in 1973, was raised in Nipawin, Saskatchewan and worked for a time in banking. They and daughter Darla moved to Ames, Iowa when Schnellert was earning his doctorate there. He later became superintendent of a school district in Blairsburg, Iowa. The family moved to Sartell in 1999 when he accepted a job as department chairperson for educational leadership at St. Cloud State University. In 2004 until his retirement in 2015, Schnellert was a doctoral coordinator for the University of North Dakota.

During his years in his home country, Canada, he served as an industrial-arts teacher, an assistant principal and an assistant superintendent.

Daughter Darla Fults is a supervisor for Alltran call center in Sartell.

Schnellert said he wrote "Small Farm in the Swamp" in his spare time when he was working on jobs overseas. The book is available through Amazon.com, Barnes & Noble, I-Tunes and Google Play.

All is Well

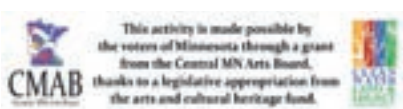
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HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE | SHOPPING IDEAS FOR ...

The Musician

Musicians make beautiful art for all of us to sing along to and enjoy. Finding them the perfect gift can help ensure that they keep doing more of the same.

ACCESSORIES

Nothing can ruin band practice quicker than broken drum sticks or lost guitar picks. Make sure your aspiring musicians have plenty of both by filling their stocking with their favorite kinds of each.

Drumsticks come in a slew of sizes, weights and brands, so do your research before buying. For picks, many companies sell punchers that allow guitarists to turn old credit cards and IDs into functional guitar picks.

PROFESSIONAL LESSONS

As long as the musician in your life doesn't misunderstand your gesture, professional music lessons would make for a great gift.

Local music shops offer a casual environment for lessons, with private rooms, top-quality equipment and vastly talented instructors.

Stores often offer packages that allow students to pick their own schedules, too, making lessons convenient and low stress. A sharpened skill set is a gift that could last a lifetime and open doors for future opportunities.

CONCERT TICKETS

Musicians were obviously inspired to play by other great artists, orchestras or

bands. Find out who convinced them to pick up their first guitar or horn, and check their websites for upcoming shows.

Concert tickets would make for a great gift under the Christmas tree and can foster lifelong memories. Music festivals are gaining popularity and provide music fans the opportunity to check out multiple performers all in one central location.

Be on the lookout for any upcoming festivals in your area. Tickets will be a little pricier, but they will provide a weekend full of entertainment.

MEMORABILIA

Musicians love to be reminded of the places they have played or the concerts they have attended. A little work on your part can help them collect and maintain such memories forever.

Many bands and performers offer memorabilia like collectible album covers, self-produced artwork and T-shirts, not to mention auction-type items that have been signed by the artists themselves.

If you're ordering signed memorabilia, though, make sure you are buying from qualified vendors who can produce the proper documentation to prove the items' credibility.



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ALL MY HEART THIS NIGHT REJOICES

A much-loved holiday tradition

Great River Chorale & The Cantabile Girls' Choirs
Brass Quintet, Organ, Narrations & Carols

Friday, December 6, 2019 | 7:30 p.m.
Bethlehem Lutheran Church | Saint Cloud, MN

Saturday, December 7, 2019 | 4 p.m.*
Church of Saint Augustine | Saint Cloud, MN



Adults \$16 | Seniors (65 and older) \$13
Children & Students (w/ID) Free
Tickets at GreatRiverChorale.org and at the door

This organization is funded, in part, by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Central MN Arts Board, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

*ASL interpretation provided

Ski

from front page

ski club funded a snow-making gun. Design Electric installed underground electrical connections along the trail to power it. Traut Cos. installed a booster pump on the gun so it will spray farther.

The school district provides water and electricity and the city of Sartell will help maintain the trail and move the snow equipment.

Starting on Nov. 10, a crew made snow for two or three days, just enough so skiers could try out the new trail during a ribbon cutting on Nov. 18. When winter snow arrives, the trail will expand to about 5K on the land around the old high school.

The snow gun came from Helena, Montana, and it shoots out 60 to 70 gallons of water per minute. The temperature has to be cooler than 25 degrees to make snow. The snow base built up by the gun should remain for the season unless the temperature reaches 50 degrees.

In past years, high school skiers traveled to Riverside Park in St. Cloud – a 30-minute trip each way – for practice.

"This is really a community effort bringing together businesses, schools and the city," Teff said. "The Sartell City Council approved the project and everyone worked together to complete the project and build this great feature for our community."



photo by Mike Knaak

High school skiers, ski club members and community members cheer after a ribbon was cut opening a cross country ski trail east of the old Sartell high school.



contributed photo

Joe Teff checks out the snow fan gun used to create snow.


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Blotter

If you have a tip concerning a crime, call the Sartell Police Department at 320-251-8186 or Tri-County Crime Stoppers at 320-255-1301, or access its tip site at tricountycrimestoppers.org. Crime Stoppers offers rewards up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for a crime.

Nov. 13
4:15 p.m. Driving complaint. Second Street N. An officer witnessed a vehicle slide through an intersection almost striking the squad car. The officer stopped the vehicle and

cited the driver for reckless driving. The driver admitted to driving too fast for the road conditions.

Nov. 14
2 p.m. Shoplifter. CR 120. A business reported a shoplifter. When the officer arrived at the business, the individual admitted they did not have the money for the items. The individual was cited for the theft from the business and released.

Nov. 15
9:40 p.m. Domestic. Seventh Street N. Officers were called to a residence regarding a

possible physical domestic assault. Officers met with one of the parties who had injuries consistent with an assault. The other party was located at another location and arrested for domestic assault and transported to Stearns County Jail.

Nov. 16
12:20 a.m. Loud party. Fifth Avenue E. Officers were dispatched to a loud party at a residence. Individuals told officers they were helping a friend move and they would keep the noise down in the future.

Nov. 17
8:40 a.m. Warrant arrest. CR 120. An officer conducting a license-plate check found the owner of a vehicle had an active warrant for their arrest. The officer located the individual inside a business and learned the driver was the owner with the warrant. The individual was taken into custody without incident and transported to Stearns County Jail.

Nov. 18
6:55 p.m. Traffic stop. CR 1. An officer conducted a license-plate check. The owner of a

vehicle had a warrant for their arrest. The officer stopped the vehicle to identify the driver. The driver was not the owner but had a suspended license. The officer issued a citation for the suspended license and released the vehicle to a valid driver.

Nov. 19
6:20 a.m. Suspicious vehicle. Amber Avenue S. An officer was dispatched to a residence of an individual sleeping in a vehicle. The vehicle and occupant left prior to officers arriving. The officer told the resident to call if the vehicle returned.

Community Calendar

Is your event listed? Send your information to: Newsleader Calendar, 1622 11th Ave. SE., St. Cloud, MN 56304., e-mail it to news@thenewsleaders.com. Most events are listed at no cost. Those events are typically free or of minimal charge for people to attend. Some events, which have paid advertising in the Newsleaders, are also listed in the calendar and may charge more.

Friday, Nov. 29
Benton County Museum, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 218 First St. N., Sauk Rapids. 320-253-9614. mnbentonhistory.org.

Monday, Dec. 2
Benton County Museum, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 218 First St. N., Sauk Rapids. 320-253-9614. mnbentonhistory.org.
Sartell Lions Club, 6:30 p.m., upstairs of Blue Line Sports Bar and Grill, 1101 Second St. S., Sartell. 320-267-2591.
Sartell Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m., City Hall, 125 Pinecone Road N., Sartell.
Sartell-St. Stephen school

board, 6:30 p.m., District Service Center, 212 Third Ave. N., Sartell.

Wednesday, Dec. 4
Advocates for Independence, 2-4 p.m., Independent Lifestyles, 215 Benton Drive N., Sauk Rapids. 320-529-9000.
St. Stephen City Council, 6:30 p.m., St. Stephen City Hall, 2 Sixth Ave SE.

Thursday, Dec. 5
Coffee and Conversation, a senior discussion group, 9 a.m., Sartell Community Center, 850 19th St. S. Speaker is Dennis Molitor, paper mill history.
Great River Regional Coin Club, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Miller Auto Marine Sports Plaza, 2930 Second St. S., St. Cloud. 320-241-9229.

Friday, Dec. 6
Benton County Museum, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 218 First St. N., Sauk Rapids. 320-253-9614. mnbentonhistory.org.
Festival of the Nativities, 4-7 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 2163 Mayhew Lake Road NE.,

Sauk Rapids. The free festival features local musicians performing Christmas music and a children's area where Christmas crafts can be created.

Saturday, Dec. 7
Christmas Candy and Cookie Bake Sale, noon-3 p.m., St. Francis Xavier Church, 219 Second St. N, Sartell.
Festival of the Nativities, 1-5 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 2163 Mayhew Lake Road NE., Sauk Rapids. The free festival features local musicians performing Christmas music and a children's area where Christmas crafts can be created.
Sartell Winter Market, 4-8 p.m. Sartell Community Center, 850 19th St S, Sartell.

Monday, Dec. 9
Benton County Museum, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 218 First St. N., Sauk Rapids. 320-253-9614. mnbentonhistory.org.
Sartell City Council, 6 p.m., City Hall, 125 Pinecone Road N.
Tuesday, Dec. 10
Sartell Chamber of Com-

merce, 11:30 a.m., Waters Church, 1227 Pinecone Road. 320-258.6061. info@sartell-chamber.com.
National Alliance on Mental Health, 7-8:30 p.m., Calvary Community Church, 1200 Roosevelt Road, St. Cloud. The group helps parents raising a child with mental illness learn coping skills and develop problem-solving skills. 320-654-1259.
Le Sauk Township Board, 7 p.m., Township Hall, 220 Fourth Ave. S., Sartell
Brockway Township Board, 7:30 p.m., Township Hall, 43710 85th Ave. N.
Wednesday, Dec. 11
Breakfast Club, 9-10 a.m., Stearns History Museum, 235 33rd Ave. S. Free for members, nominal fee for nonmembers. 320-253-8424.

Thursday, Dec. 12
Coffee and Conversation, a senior discussion group, 9 a.m., Sartell Community Center, 850 19th St. S. Speaker is Mark Finn, City of Sartell building inspector.

Friday, Dec. 13
Benton County Museum, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 218 First St. N., Sauk Rapids. 320-253-9614. mnbentonhistory.org.

Saturday, Dec. 14
KringleFest, 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Stearns History Museum, 235 33rd Ave. S., St. Cloud. Free for museum members and children 4 and younger or nominal fee for nonmembers. 320-253-8424,
Cookie Walk, 10-11:30 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1107 Pinecone Road, Sartell. Purchase three to four dozen homemade cookies for \$12.
Historic Salem Church Christmas Program, 3-4:15 p.m. horse-drawn wagon rides, 4:30 p.m. Christmas Program, Historic Salem Community Church, 5 miles north of Paynesville on 220th Street.

Sunday, Dec. 15
Best Omelette in Town, 8 a.m.-noon, Waite Park American Legion, 17 Second Ave. N. Includes hash browns, toast, coffee, juice and water.

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Opinion

Our View Reform needed for voters' voices to be heard

Help paying for health care. Repairing crumbling roads and bridges. Gun safety laws. Action on climate change. A realistic immigration policy.

Citizens want action on all these issues and most people agree on the solutions. Yet nothing happens.

Presidential candidate Tom Steyer thinks he has the answer and the answer is not who gets elected but the need for basic structural reform. His reform agenda doesn't make for a catchy slogan and Steyer won't be the Democrats' nominee to face Donald Trump. But his ideas strike directly at why the actions most American want don't happen.

Steyer's government reform agenda includes:

Repeal Citizens United

Corporations aren't people. The Supreme Court decision in Citizens United must be overturned and public financing of campaigns should become the law of the land.

Restructure the Federal Election Commission

The FEC is an independent agency that oversees our elections — but it has been plagued by internal dysfunction. Reform includes changes to its budget, commissioner composition, independence from other branches of government and penalty enforcement.

Congressional term limits

There's a widespread perception that the longer an elected official serves in Congress, the less connected they are to their constituents — and the more beholden they become to corporate interests and lobbyists. Limit service to 12 years in the House or Senate.

Election reform legislation

The For the People Act, the Voting Rights Advancement Act and the Native American Voting Rights Act, already approved by the House, need Senate approval and the president should sign them into law.

Independent redistricting commissions

When partisan elected officials draw district lines, the electoral maps they draw rig the system in their favor and attempt to suppress and dilute the votes in communities of color. Independent, nonpartisan redistricting commissions should draw these boundaries, and eliminate racial gerrymandering.

To see why these issues are important, let's look locally at our local member of Congress, Tom Emmer. This examination is not meant to pick on him or single him out. Emmer is a pretty typical incumbent representative. Like more than 80 percent of incumbents, Democrats and Republicans, Emmer is in a safe district where he'll get re-elected. Most incumbents capture about 65 percent of the vote. (In his last three elections, Emmer won with 56, 66 and 61 percent.)

Incumbency boosts fundraising as well and it's helped Emmer, as it does all incumbents, of both parties.

The financial sector is far and away the largest source of campaign contributions to federal candidates and parties, with insurance companies, securities and investment firms, real estate interests and commercial banks providing the bulk of that money. In this election cycle, it accounts for \$220,043,185 in campaign spending.

Not surprising, and pretty typical, Emmer, a member of the House Financial Services Committee, received \$324,250 in contributions from financial services donors.

A close look at Emmer's fundraising shows while 59 percent comes from PACS, only 4.5 percent (or \$47,984) comes from individual contributions of \$200 or less.

How can an individual voter's voice be heard, when big business, with millions of dollars to spend, channels money to incumbents in safe districts?

It's not only Congress. With the presidential election a year away, the money is piling up. Through the last reporting cycle, Trump has raised \$204 million. Eighteen of his Democratic opponents have raised a total of \$242 million.

While Steyer is a longshot to be president, he offers significant reforms to take big money out of elections and increase voter participation that will remove barriers to actions most voters say they want.

Old friends link up for Santa Paws

The text message popped up on my screen.

"He Mike, do you have any plans from 1:30-4:30 on Nov. 23?"

It was from my friend and former colleague at the St. Cloud Times, Kate Kompas.

No plans, I replied, although my spouse had raised the prospect of traveling to Evanston, Illinois, to watch the Gophers-Wildcats football game that weekend.

"Want to be a photographer for a TCHS event?" she replied.

Kate now works for the Tri-County Humane Society and I knew their big fundraising event, Santa Paws, was coming up.

As a newspaper photographer since the 1970s, I've photographed all kinds of things, but I've never taken animal portraits. About as close as I've come is shooting dairy judging at the Stearns County Fair.

Portrait photography is an entirely different genre from news photography. I've been asked to shoot weddings, but with one exception, I've declined. Dealing with high-strung brides and grooms or drunken parents is way more stressful than photographing a police standoff or a championship football game.

But I agreed to help. When I was an editor and Kate was a reporter at the Times, she often bailed me out by offering to cover an unexpected assignment. I certainly owed her a favor.

**Mike
Knaak**
Editor



Then I found out not only would I be shooting animals and their owners but also Santa, played by another longtime Times friend and colleague, sports reporter Tom Elliott.

Tom and I reported together for more than 35 years. We roamed the sidelines at high school football games and soaked up summer sun covering amateur baseball.

Tom's a great Santa, not only because he fills out the suit, but his gentle and gregarious nature brings the Santa role to life.

My Santa Paws photo session turned out to be more of a Times reunion when I learned the photographer working before me was Melissa King, another friend and co-worker from my Times days.

The four of us enjoyed the reunion but we also had a serious mission.

More than 200 pet owners scheduled a photo session over three days last weekend — that's one pet family about every five minutes. For the Humane Society, the event raises more than \$8,000. Volunteers help with herding the pets, posing the humans and animals and transferring the photos to flash drives. Other volunteers donate materials and equipment to cut down costs.

ment to cut down costs.

Dogs big and small and a few cats arrived with their families during my three hours. Some folks donned Christmas costumes while others just wanted a simple family portrait.

My favorite family, two dogs included, wore matching holiday scarves. A very colorful, yet subtle touch.

One couple showed up with a pair of very large dogs. The owners said they wisely took the dogs for a run before the photo session. Fully exercised, the dogs were ready to pose.

The day ended with two women dressed as Whoville characters, along with two tiny costumed dogs. A man, wearing a full green Grinch costume, joined the group, although I'm thinking based on his demeanor, the others talked him into the Grinch persona.

Kate warned me that more than cats and dogs would be in the lineup. In the past, people have arrived with horses and goats.

Earlier on Saturday, Santa Tom posed with a guinea pig, "some sort of lizard thing" and the "biggest rabbit you've ever seen."

The three hours flew by, thanks to lots of happy people, sometimes cooperative pets and helpful volunteers.

Tom reflected on his day as Santa: "It's a fun job but it doesn't pay very well, a lot like journalism."

Is it - finally - the Vikings' year?

It's that time of the year again, when the state of Minnesota places our hopes in the Minnesota Vikings, and we try to decide "could it actually be our year this time?" It's the question that has always bemused sports fans in our state. After almost every big run of the past has ended in disappointment, we're almost wary to embrace the team for a championship run. What I say to that though, is that if we don't get behind them at moments like this, it will make us look foolhardy when that eventual Super Bowl comes.

I've been watching and supporting Vikings football for as long as I can remember, and I can recall a lot of the highs and lows. The 2009 season when we landed Brett Favre as quarterback is a big one in my mind. We went 12-4 that season, having many big games until finally arriving at the NFC Championship Game against the New Orleans Saints. In a crushing defeat, later marred by the Bountygate scandal of Saints targeting Vikings players, the Vikings lost 31-28.

Another big loss was the Wild Card loss to the Seattle Seahawks in January 2016. After a hard-fought game with few scores, the points stood at 10-9, the Vikings trailing by one point with seconds left in the fourth quarter, trusting our kicker Blair Walsh to put us over the finish line. Tragically, he missed, and Minnesota's playoff hopes were dashed.

**Connor
Kockler**
Guest Writer



Of course, the moment that sticks out the most in recent memory is the "Minneapolis Miracle" of 2018 fame. After dominating the early game, the Vikings were trailing the New Orleans Saints 23-24 in the late stages. Gunning for a long reception and a chance for a game-winning field goal, Vikings quarterback Case Keenum threw a massive pass to Stefon Diggs. Instead of having to run out of bounds, however, Diggs dodged the Saints safety and managed to run it back to the end zone, winning the game.

This year has the potential to be another memorable season. We're already almost exceeding last year, when we went 8-7-1. The Vikings are 8-3 this year following our recent win against Denver. There are five more games to keep up the wins and our team has been having breakout performances throughout. Running back Dalvin Cook, quarterback Kirk Cousins and our defense have been exceptionally outstanding.

At this time, many might invoke the "Vikings curse" or the curse that affects all Minnesota sports generally. As soon as a team starts to do well and fans across the state start

to believe they can win, we're all let down spectacularly. Minnesota teams exist to constantly disappoint us, the stories go. I don't buy it.

Though the Vikings have never won a Super Bowl, we've been to the Super Bowl four times and the NFC Championship game even more times. The Vikings are never usually a "bad" team; where we have trouble is in the playoffs. Based on how our team plays and their strengths, winning a Super Bowl is something the Vikings should accomplish in the near future.

With that in mind, we should get behind our Vikings. This team has a great history and culture in our state. Millions of fans every year take their weekends to watch them and cheer them on. It's a collective identity regardless of any differences Minnesotans can get behind. We're all one when we're doing the "Skol" chant and reveling in a win against our archrival the Green Bay Packers. Despite any apprehension about curses or being let down, let's get out and support our Vikings as they keep pushing on this season. And who knows, maybe this could be "our year."

Connor Kockler is a student at St. John's University. He enjoys writing, politics and news, among other interests.

Public Notice

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
SARTELL-ST. STEPHEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO 748
OCT. 21, 2019
DISTRICT SERVICE CENTER BOARD ROOM

The regular school board meeting of Independent School District 748 was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chair Jason Nies. Members present: Nies; Jeremy Snoberger, vice chair; Pamela Raden, clerk; Amanda Byrd, treasurer; Patrick Marushin, director; and Jeff Schwiebert, superintendent. Member absent: Lesa Kramer, director.

A motion was made by Raden and seconded by Snoberger to APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Marushin and seconded by Byrd to APPROVE CONSENT ITEMS A-D AS PRESENTED BELOW. All in favor. Motion carried.

a. Minutes of the regular school board meeting held on Sept. 16, 2019

b. Checks in the amount of \$2,449,148.24 as presented:

General Fund	1,914,421.82
Food Service Fund	242,263.57
Transportation Fund	149,750.64
Community Service Fund	56,407.24
Capital Expenditure Fund	84,168.18
Debt Service Fund	2,000.00
Summer Rec Agency Fund	136.79
Check numbers 176282 – 176702	

ACHs in the amount of \$7,096.60 as presented:

General Fund	6,571.32
Food Service Fund	217.57
Community Service Fund	245.15
Summer Rec Agency Fund	62.56
ACH numbers 192000029-192000063	

Receipts in the amount of \$4,036,339.33 as presented:

General Fund	3,467,544.44
Food Service Fund	185,703.70
Transportation Fund	10,213.91
Community Service Fund	123,589.09
Capital Expenditure Fund	21,407.77
Building Fund	2,812.82
Debt Service Fund	224,417.60
Summer Rec Agency Fund	650.00
Receipts 46478 - 46633	

Wire transfers in the amount of \$99,871.84 as presented:

General Fund	54,577.14
Food Service Fund	11,060.93
Transportation Fund	752.00
Community Service Fund	2,140.33
Capital Expenditure Fund	3,500.32
Building Fund	27,841.12

Wire transfers 201900140-201900251

Building Fund Checks in the amount of \$1,765,540.62 as presented:

Building Fund	1,765,540.62
Check numbers 600725 to 600763	

c. Accept the following donations:

Pine Meadow Elementary PTO, Pine Meadow Elementary, \$1,036.12, donation for classroom supplies; the Omann family, Sartell High School, decorative landscaping rocks, new high school landscaping; Northern Metal Products, Sartell High School, metal blue tables, new high school welding tables; Wells Concrete, Sartell High School, concrete for dugouts, new high school dugout concrete; Blackberry Ridge Golf Course, Sartell High School, four class periods on the range/practice green and one nine-hole round for approximately 30 students, donation for Sartell High School Team games classes.

d. Accept the resignation of Molly Butkowski, DSC-Early Childhood, ECSE para Monday/Tuesday/Thursday 10/17/19; Lonna Christenson, District, sub food service worker, 10/4/19; Joy Shea, ORE, para, 10/31/19; Christina Studanski, SHS, para, 10/9/19.

Student Representative Report: Courtney Snoberger

Student Representative Snoberger reported on happenings around the district. The high school had a successful homecoming week capped off by the return of the student council carnival. The next dance will be the Halloween dance, which includes a costume contest on Oct. 31. Sartell High School Student Council will have a division meeting tomorrow in preparation for the “Toys for Tots” drive and planning for state convention with a focus on finding host families to provide housing for students during the state convention. Fall sports are wrapping up with girls’ swimming and diving taking second at True Team. The choir concert and fall play will be occurring in the next few weeks. The Middle School celebrated kindness week with chalk designs on the sidewalks and will host the first activity night of the year for fifth-grade students. Sartell Middle School Student Council will present the fall play “A Fairy Tale Courtroom” the first week of November. Oak Ridge Elementary students continue their PBIS with two students from each grade level being selected each week for student of the week. Fourth-grade students are reading the morning announcements. National Unity Day was successful in supporting bully-free schools with the Vikings mascot visiting the school.

Construction Manager Report on Building Process: Lee Gruen

Construction Manager Gruen reported the new high school is finishing up with testing on the HVAC systems with the change in temperatures. There are only a few items left on the punch list. At the old high school remodel building, demo is completed and areas are starting to be put back together. The project is going very smoothly with focus now being on completing the roof and the new skylight.

Superintendent Report: Jeff Schwiebert, superintendent

Superintendent Schwiebert reported prices for the case-work at the old high school came in very good so the scope of the project could be expanded. The timeline of reopening in May with cleaning over summer is still on track. The engineers of SEH are working on a plan of a second exit point at the site and working on playground options. Two weeks from tomorrow is the special election for the levy. There will be one more large presentation for the community at the middle school and then a presentation at the Sartell Senior Connection at the Community Center. The final item will be a live streamed presentation

via YouTube Live with time for questions and answers. Thanks to the City of St. Stephen which was in the process of selling their generator, but has decided to donate the generator back to the district.

Enrollment Report:

Superintendent Schwiebert reported on the current 2019-2020 enrollment numbers for each school.

School Board Committee Report:

Director Byrd reported on the CTE meeting and dedication of an industrial drill press held in conjunction with DeZurik at the Sartell High School.

Sartell High School Update Report:

Principal Brenda Steve reported on the student and staff transition to the new high school and how the new building is supporting learning and instruction.

A motion was made by Snoberger and seconded by Marushin to APPROVE #1-19:

New Employees/Changes:

Molly Butkowski, SHS, facility scheduler/receptionist, \$18.77/hour, RII, S1, 2.5 hours/day, school year, new position, 10/2/2019; Bethany Calhoun, SHS, part-time cleaner, \$15.27/hour, RI, S1, 4 hours/day, school year, replacing Evelyn Slivnik, 9/25/2019; Emily Donnay, SHS, FACS, \$19,409, BA, Step A, .4857 FTE, additional assignment/replacing Joey Vanek, 9/12/2019; Derek Gerads, PME, lead custodian, \$18.22/hour, RIV, S1, 8 hours/day, 260 days/year, replacing Lori Tchida – temporarily reassigned, 10/7/2019; Mark Hedstrom, 6-8 building head custodian, \$26.74/hour, RVIII, S6, 8 hours/day, 260 days/year, new position, 9/30/2019; Bill Henrichs, SHS, FACS, \$6,521.76, BA, Step A, .1615 FTE, 63 days/year, replacing Emily Donnay, 10/2/2019; Mallory Johnson, SMS, eighth-grade girls' basketball, \$2,439 (6.35 percent), BA, Step 0 (\$38,410), replacing Greg Roering, 10/15/2019; Judith Loudon, St. Francis, Title I, \$27.73/hour, BA, Step A, 300 hours/year, new position, 9/17/2019; Julie Reder, ORE, custodian, \$16.93/hour, RIII, S1, 8 hours/day, 260 days/year, new position, 10/7/2019; Viki Sabart, SHS, co-head girls' swim, \$5,278 (13 percent), BA, Step D, updated wages, 8/12/2019; Marina Schroeder, DSC – Early Childhood, child care attendant, \$13.87/hour, RI, S1, 4 hours/day, replacing Renee Ziegelmeier, 10/7/2019; Jennifer Thompson, SHS, co-head girls' swim, \$4,002 (13 percent), BA, Step 0, updated wages, 8/12/2019; Hannah Waldham, PME, para, \$16.42/

hour, RIV, S1, 6.25 hours/day, new position, 10/21/2019.

Leaves of Absence:

Paul Determan, ORE, teacher, LOA, 1/2/20-3/2/20; Ma-foule Kenyon, ORE, para, LOA, 11/14/19-11/27/19; Carmen Peterson, SMS, teacher, LOA, 3/2/20-end of school year; Gary Rosin, SMS, teacher, LOA, 11/13/19-2/18/20; Michelle Traut, ORE, para, LOA, 10/31/19-12/13/19; Leslie Yasgar, DSC – Early Childhood, teacher, LOA, 11/12/19-2/11/20.

All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Marushin and seconded by Snoberger to APPROVE AUTHORIZATION OF ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT, KAY NELSON (KAYANNENELSON) TO ACT AS THE IDENTIFIED OFFICIAL WITH AUTHORITY (IOWA) FOR ISD 748 SARTELL-ST.STEPHEN. All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Raden and seconded by Marushin to APPROVE APOPTION OF POLICY 713 STUDENT ACTIVITY ACCOUNTING. All in favor. Motion carried.

Schedule Work Session and Committee Meetings:

Future Board Work Session/Audit Update – Wednesday, Nov. 6 @ District Service Center - 6:30 p.m.

Future Special Board Canvass Meeting – Friday, Nov. 8 @ District Service Center – 7:15 a.m.

Future Board Meeting – Monday, Nov. 18 @ District Service Center - 6:30 p.m.

Committee assignments were reviewed.

The Board took a five-minute recess at 7:34 p.m. The meeting resumed at 7:39 p.m.

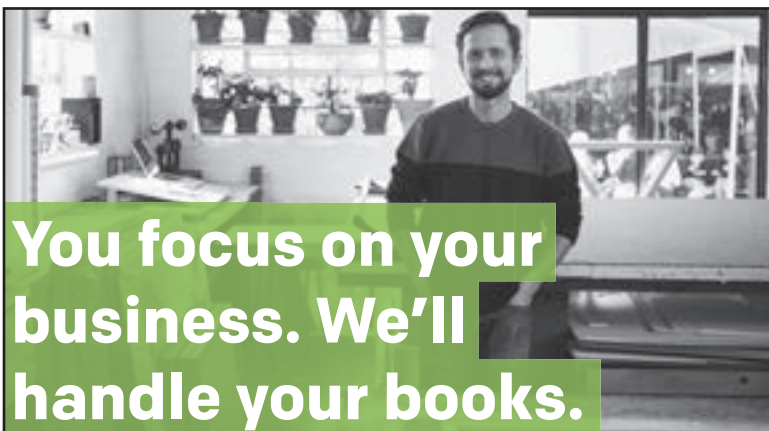
A motion was made by Snoberger and seconded by Marushin TO CLOSE THE MEETING FOR NEGOTIATIONS STRATEGY PURSUANT TO MN STAT. 13D.03. All in favor. Motion carried. Business Director Joe Prom and Human Resources Director Bart Appleton were invited to join the discussion.

A motion was made by Marushin and seconded by Snoberger at 8:02 p.m. TO OPEN THE MEETING. All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion to ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:02 p.m. was made by Raden and seconded by Byrd. All in favor. Motion carried.

/s/ Pamela Raden, clerk

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Honored

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items introduced and fine-tuned throughout the years. Among its offerings are – besides pizza with dozens of styles and toppings – cheese breads, lots of pasta dishes, Italian waffle fries, Idaho house nachos, toasted ravioli, a wide variety of flatbreads, and many kinds of sandwiches, salads and refreshments.

“We have five watchwords for the business,” Testa said. “quality, consistency, cleanliness, customer service, community. And it’s our great staff that makes those watchwords happen.”

Testa, who lives in Sartell, is dedicated – along with his staff – to giving back to the community and good causes, and the restaurant often features fundraisers and other events to support local groups.

The two House of Pizza locations are at 1733 Pinecone Road S. in Sartell and at 19 Fifth Ave. S. in St. Cloud.

Meyer

Sartell Citizen of the Year Jed A. Meyer has long been a tireless volunteer in the St. Cloud area and in Sartell, especially in regard to the Sartell Baseball Association and the development of the city’s Pinecone Central Park. Meyer currently serves as secretary of the baseball association and serves as a volunteer baseball coach. He formerly served the association as president and treasurer.

Meyer is the president and chief executive officer of the St.

Cloud Financial Credit Union of Minnesota, which has a branch in Sartell, as well as ones in St. Cloud and Sauk Rapids led by Meyer. Meyer has been a leader in the financial-services business for nearly 25 years. That credit union now has nearly 18,500 members in Minnesota.

Meyer earned degrees in psychology and communications management from the University of Minnesota – Duluth.

Among his many memberships and volunteer work are the following: Sartell Pinecone Central Park Association; Sartell Baseball Association; and the Downtown St. Cloud Rotary (and previous treasurer). He also served on the Minnesota Youth Intervention Program, the St. Cloud Public Safety Foundation and the Plymouth/New Hope Little League as vice president.

An enthusiastic outdoorsman, Meyer loves to spend time vacationing with wife Sara and children Mason, Nicholas and Olivia.

Houle

Jessica Houle was honored as the Sartell Chamber of Commerce Member of the Year award for her multi-talented work for the Chamber and for the community at large.

Houle is vice president of development and community engagement for United Way of Central Minnesota, a job she began in January 2019. Before being named vice president, Houle was director of the UW’s workplace campaign from 2012 to 2018. Her past jobs included catering sales manager for Holiday Inn & Suites and reservationist for Madden’s Resort.

She has long been active in the

Chamber, as its president in 2015 and through her many activities as a member of the Chamber Board.

Houle has long distinguished herself for her effectiveness in event planning and management, customer service, marketing, advertising, sales, program development, time management, training, community outreach, fundraising and networking. Those skills and other talents relating to business and community involvement earned her the “Choice” award for Chamber Member of the Year.

Houle is one of 12 Chamber Board members.

Criers

from front page

Create arts and crafts, decorate a cookie, see the reindeer exhibit, enjoy a hayride around the lake and much more. Don’t forget your camera to capture special moments with Santa! The big trucks will be rolling in again this year for Touch-a-Truck, where children can see, touch and safely explore their favorite big trucks and heavy machinery. Free admission, thanks to our friends at Capital One! Food shelf donations will be accepted during the event.

St. John’s Boys’ Choir to perform Dec. 21

“A Ceremony of Carols” will be Saturday, Dec. 21, at 2 p.m. at **St. John’s Abbey Church**, Collegeville, and 8 p.m. at **St. Mary’s Cathedral**, downtown St. Cloud. Hear harpist Dr. Lynne Aspnes perform Benjamin Britten’s Christmas masterpiece with the St. John’s Boys’ Choir. The boys sing new and familiar carols, combining with the talents of the SJBC Orchestra and special Alumni Chorus. To order tickets and learn more, visit sjb-choir.org or call 320-363-2558.



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